

HOUSE RESOLUTION 57
By Boner

A RESOLUTION to create a special committee to evaluate the progress that businesses have made in eliminating discrimination in the workplace.

WHEREAS, every Tennessee employee has the right to be treated with dignity and respect; and

WHEREAS, discrimination has an adverse effect on productivity and morale in the workplace; and

WHEREAS, fair opportunity in the workplace should be a reality for all employees in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, valuable and talented employees are attracted to Tennessee businesses that have equal opportunity policies; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee is committed to providing workplaces for its citizens that are free of discrimination; and

WHEREAS, placing a premium on fair opportunity in the workplace brings financial benefits to Tennessee employers by encouraging full and open participation by all employees; and

WHEREAS, fair opportunity in employment practices, compensation practices, personnel policies, and our administration of benefit plans and other programs is sound business practice; and

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WHEREAS, all Tennesseans are entitled to a fair opportunity to earn a living regardless of race, age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, national origin or religion; and

WHEREAS, providing fair opportunity is not only the right thing to do, it also serves to enhance business and employee dedication and loyalty; and

WHEREAS, many businesses have implemented programs to make the workplace for its employees free from discrimination; and

WHEREAS, it is important for these businesses to compile and disseminate information on such programs for implementation by other Tennessee companies; and

WHEREAS, such effective equal opportunity policies merit consistent and repeated support; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That there is hereby created a special committee to examine the causes of discrimination in the workplace, the policies Tennessee businesses have implemented to prevent discrimination in the workplace, and to make recommendations to ensure that all Tennesseans enjoy the rights they so richly deserve.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special joint committee shall be composed of five (5) members of the house of representatives, to be appointed by the speaker.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all legislative members of the special committee who are duly elected members of the General Assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the General Assembly, and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and any other officers the committee deems necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special committee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation or interim reports, to the One-Hundredth General Assembly prior to the adjournment of its 1998 session, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.